

SENATE—Wednesday, June 21, 2000

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, Sovereign of our Nation and Lord of our lives, we praise You for the Asian American veterans who fought with valor and heroism in World War II. Today, as the Senate family, we express our deep admiration and gratitude for Senator DANIEL INOUE of Hawaii who will receive the Medal of Honor from the President at the White House. We thank You for his heroism in battle and his leadership here in the Senate for 38 years. Most of all, Father, we express our praise for his character traits so authentically expressed: humility, patriotism, integrity, courage, and faithfulness. You have blessed the State of Hawaii, our Nation, and this Senate with this truly great man.

Now dear God we commit this day to You and ask that all the Senators will receive Your wisdom and discernment for their decisions and mutual trust and loyalty for their working relationships with one another. This is a day You have made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable WAYNE ALLARD, a Senator from the State of Colorado, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able Senator from Colorado is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. ALLARD. Today, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until approximately 10:45 a.m., with Senators GRAHAM and VOINOVICH in control of the time. Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the foreign operations appro-

priations bill. Under the order, Senator WELLSTONE will be recognized to offer his amendment regarding Colombia. There will be 90 minutes under Senator WELLSTONE's control and 45 minutes under Senator MCCONNELL's control. As a reminder, first-degree amendments to the bill must be filed by 3 p.m. today. Votes are expected throughout the day, with a vote on final passage anticipated prior to tonight's adjournment. Senators can expect the Labor-HHS appropriations bill to be the next bill for consideration. I thank my colleagues for their cooperation.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the morning business time under the control of Senator GRAHAM of Florida be controlled by Senator DURBIN, or his designee, with 15 minutes of that time under the control of Senator TORRICELLI.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

COMPLETING FOREIGN OPERATIONS APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, let me say to my friend, the acting leader this morning, that we are going to do everything we can to cooperate and see that the foreign operations appropriations bill is completed today. I think it is going to be real difficult to do that. We won't know for sure until we get our amendments at 3 o'clock. Considering that the first amendment is going to take until after noon, it is going to be difficult to do all the amendments that need to be done. I know there is going to be a number of them filed. We are all anxious to get to the Labor-HHS bill. It is very important, and it is going to take several days to do that. As I have indicated, the majority will have our cooperation, but we have to be realistic as to when we will be able to finish this bill. We will not know until the amendments have been filed at 3 o'clock.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALLARD). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each.

The Senator from South Carolina is recognized.

THE RECEIPT OF THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR BY SENATOR DANIEL K. INOUE

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, during World War II, countless individuals distinguished themselves while serving this fine Nation. However, few displayed the valor, leadership, and selflessness as our colleague DANIEL K. INOUE and it is with much admiration that I congratulate him on what this afternoon will be a deserving receipt of the Congressional Medal of Honor. The Medal of Honor is the highest medal awarded by the United States and is reserved for those who have gone above and beyond the call of duty, at the risk of their own life, to perform a deed of personal bravery or self-sacrifice.

We have recently reached a point in U.S. history which has left only a handful of Americans who can personally recount the events that took place during World War II and even fewer who fought in this effort to free Europe from the plague of Nazis. Though history books attempt to give younger generations insight into the valiant deeds and the countless deaths which occurred during the Second World War, no words can convey the emotional tragedies and triumphs felt by the men and women who participated in this campaign.

At the age of seventeen, DAN INOUE embarked on a life of public service. Using his knowledge of first aid, he volunteered to treat the earliest casualties of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. This marked the beginning of DAN's exemplary service to his country. After turning eighteen, he enlisted in the United States Army's 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

On the fateful day of April 21, 1945, outside a small town in Italy, Lieutenant INOUE made a decision which would change the course of his life. As he led his platoon of the 2nd Battalion up a ridge, they were confronted with heavy machine-gun fire, striking Lieutenant INOUE in the abdomen and barely missing his spine. Rather than risk the life of one of his men, the injured young officer went up against insurmountable odds, and crawled alone farther up the hill into the nest of machine guns. He struggled to stand up,